IN THE CLAIMS

Please make the following claim substitutions:

1   1. (Currently amended)   A method for use in a communications endpoint, the
2   method comprising the steps of:
3   determining a signature of a communications channel, wherein the signature of
4   the communications channel is a second order statistic of a signal-to-noise ratio of a
5   signal received from the communications channel;
6   performing power control over the communications channel wherein the power
7   control compares a metric value and a target metric value, such that the target metric
8   value is adjusted as a <u>variable</u> function of the determined signature of the
9   communications channel.

1   2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the metric is a bit error rate (BER).

1   3. (Canceled)

1   4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the determining step
2   includes the steps of:
3   collecting signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) values of the signal received from the
4   communications channel; and
5   calculating the second order statistic of the collected SNR values.

1   5. (Canceled)

1   6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the communications endpoint is a
2   wireless endpoint.

1   7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the metric is a symbol error count.

1   8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the determining step
2   includes the step of monitoring the symbol error count of the received signal for
3   determining a standard deviation of the received symbol error count; and the performing
4   step includes the step of adjusting a target symbol error count for the received signal as
5   a function of the standard deviation for use in providing the power control.

1   9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the determining step

2   includes the steps of:

3   monitoring a symbol error count of the received signal for determining a standard

4   deviation of a received symbol error count;

5   setting a target symbol error rate as a function of the standard deviation; and

6   wherein the performing step includes the step of

7   adjusting a target signal-to-noise ratio for the received signal depending on the

8   difference between the set target symbol error rate and the actual symbol error count

9   produced by the receiver.

1   10. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the performing power control step

2   performs symbol error count based reverse outer loop power control with adaptive

3   symbol error rate targets.

1   11. (Currently amended) A method for use in a communications endpoint, the

2   method comprising the steps of:

3   receiving a signal from a wireless endpoint;

4   developing a second order statistic from the received signal based on a signal-to-

5   noise ratio of the received signal; and

6   performing power control with the wireless endpoint by adjusting a target value

7   as a variable function of the second order statistic.

1   12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the developing step

2   further comprises:

3   adjusting a bit error rate target value as a function of the second order

4   statistic;

5   and the performing step includes the step of performing reverse-link outer loop

6   power control as a function of a comparison between a bit error rate value of the

7   received signal and the adjusted bit error rate target value.

1   13. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the communications endpoint is a

2   wireless endpoint.

1   14. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the power control is a symbol error

2   count based power control.

1   15. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the developing step includes the

2   step of monitoring a symbol error count of the received signal for determining a

3   standard deviation of the received symbol error count; and the performing step includes

4   the step of adjusting a target symbol error count for the received signal as a function of

5   the standard deviation for use in providing the power control.

1   16. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the developing step includes the

2   steps of:

3   monitoring a symbol error count of the received signal for determining a standard

4   deviation of the received symbol error count;

5   setting a target symbol error rate as a function of the standard deviation; and

6   the performing step includes the step of adjusting a target signal-to-noise ratio for

7   the received signal depending on the difference between the set target symbol error

8   rate and the actual symbol error count produced by the receiver.

1   17. (Currently amended)   A method for use in a communications endpoint, the

2   method comprising the steps of:

3   measuring a signature of a fading environment, wherein the measuring includes

4   calculating a standard deviation value of a signal-to-noise ratio of a received signal; and

5   performing power control by adjusting a target metric value as a <u>variable</u> function

6   of the measured signature.

1   18. (Canceled)

1   19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the performing step

2   uses the standard deviation value of the signal-to-noise ratio to adjust the target metric

3   value.

1   20. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the metric value is a bit error rate

2   (BER).

1   21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the performing step
2   adds a value to a signal-to-noise ratio target value, wherein the added value is selected
3   as a function of the measured signature of the fading environment.

1   22. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the performing step includes the
2   steps of:
3   estimating a bit error rate (BER);
4   comparing the estimated BER to a target BER value; and
5   adjusting a target signal-to-noise ratio value as a result of the comparison by
6   adding a value to the target signal-to-noise ratio;
7   wherein the value added to the target signal-to-noise-ratio is selected as a
8   function of the measured signature.

1   23. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the communications endpoint is a
2   wireless endpoint.

1   24. (Currently amended)   An apparatus for use in a communication endpoint,
2   the apparatus comprising:
3   a receiver for receiving a signal;
4   a controller for (a) developing a signature of a communications channel from the
5   received signal, wherein the controller further determines the signature of the
6   communications channel by collecting signal-to-noise ratio values of the received signal
7   and by calculating a second order statistic of the collected signal-to-noise ratio values;
8   and (b) performing power control over the communications channel by adjusting a target
9   metric value as a variable function of the signature of the communications channel.

1   25. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24 further comprising a decoder for
2   decoding the received signal and wherein the metric is a bit error rate (BER) of the
3   decoded received signal.

1   26. (Canceled)

1   27. (Canceled)

1   28. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 24 further comprising a

2   memory for storing a look-up table which maps values of the second order statistic to

3   adjustment values for use in adjusting the target metric value.

1   29. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the metric value is signal-to-

2   noise (SNR).

1   30. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the target metric value is a

2   target signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) and the controller adjusts the SNR target value by

3   adding a value to the SNR target value, wherein the added value is selected as a

4   function of the developed signature.

1   31. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the communications endpoint is

2   a wireless endpoint.

1   32. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the metric is a symbol error

2   count.

1   33. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the controller monitors a

2   symbol error count of the received signal for determining a standard deviation of the

3   received symbol error count; and adjusts a target symbol error count for the received

4   signal as a function of the standard deviation for use in providing the power control.

1   34. (Original) An apparatus for use in a communications endpoint, the apparatus

2   comprising:

3   a decoder for decoding a frame of a received signal and for providing a signal

4   representative of log-likelihood ratios with respect to information bits of the decoded

5   frame;

6   a bit error estimate generator responsive to the signal representative of the log-

7   likelihood ratios for providing a bit error rate estimate; and

8   a processor for performing reverse outer loop power control (ROLPC) over a

9   communications channel wherein the ROLPC performs a comparison between the bit

10 error rate estimate and a target bit error rate value such that the target bit error rate

11   value is adjusted as a function of a signature of the communications channel.

1   35. (Original) The apparatus of claim 34 wherein the processor further
2   determines the signature of the communications channel by calculating a second order
3   statistic of a received signal-to-noise ratio (SNR).

1   36. (Original) The apparatus of claim 35 further comprising a memory for storing
2   a look-up table which maps values of the second order statistic to adjustment values for
3   use in adjusting the target bit error rate value.

1   37. (Original) The apparatus of claim 34 wherein the communications endpoint is
2   a wireless endpoint.

1   38. (Currently amended)   Apparatus for use in equipment for providing power
2   control in a cellular system, the apparatus comprising:
3   a receiver for receiving a signal from a wireless endpoint;
4   a controller for (a) developing a second order statistic from the received signal,
5   wherein the controller calculates the second order statistic of collected signal-to-noise
6   ratio values of the received signal, and wherein said second order statistic is used to
7   determine an adjustment to a target metric value; and (b) performing power control with
8   the wireless endpoint as a variable function of the second order statistic.

1   39. (Canceled)

1   40. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 38 wherein the metric value is
2   a bit error rate (BER).

1   41. (Original) The apparatus of claim 38 wherein the power control is a symbol
2   error count based power control.

1   42. (Original) The apparatus of claim 38 wherein the controller monitors a
2   symbol error count of the received signal for determining a standard deviation of the
3   received symbol error count; and adjusts a target symbol error count for the received
4   signal as a function of the standard deviation for use in providing the power control.

1   43. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 38 further comprising a
2   transmitter for transmitting power control information to a mobile station.